

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application. Applicants have submitted a new complete claim set showing marked up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for creating drill links in a report, comprising:
 - a) accessing a relational abstraction of a data store, the relational abstraction including a plurality of views, scalar or aggregate fields associated with the views, relations between the views, and a metadata layer that includes one or more objects that contain properties describing the data store, the views, the fields, and the relations;
receiving an indication of a base view from among one or more views in the relational abstraction; and
 - b) providing a user interface for creating a customized report that includes at least one drill link,
wherein creating the customized report comprises
including only fields constrained by the base view, and

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providing the at least one drill link on a field constrained by the metadata layer of the relational abstraction based upon a relation path from the base view.

2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the report is in a HyperText Markup Language (HTML)_format.
4. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the report is in a Dynamic HyperText Markup Language (DHTML) format.
5. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the report is in an eXtensible Markup Language (XML) format.
6. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the report is in a Portable Document Format (PDF) format.
7. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the report is in a Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG) format.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the drill link includes a reference to a second report.
10. (Canceled).
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)

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14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1 wherein the drill link includes a reference to an object that is based upon at least one relational abstraction object having a base view that is a destination view of a relation in the relation path sequence.

19. (Original) A method of claim 18 wherein the reference is to a report template.

20. (Original) A method of claim 18 wherein the reference is to an expression.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for following drill links in a report comprising:

- a) accessing a relational abstraction of a data store, the relational abstraction including a plurality of views, scalar or aggregate fields associated with the views, relations between the views, and a metadata layer having one or more objects that contain properties describing the data store, the views, the fields, and the relations;
- b) providing a user interface for creating a first report containing at least one drill link, wherein creating the first report comprises including only fields constrained by a base view in the relational abstraction, and providing the at least one drill link on a field constrained by the metadata layer of the relational abstraction based upon a relation path from the base view;

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- ~~e)e)~~ upon selection of a drill link in the first report, extracting information associated with the drill link; and
- ~~d)d)~~ generating a second report using the extracted information.
22. (Canceled)
23. (Canceled)
24. (Original) A method of 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to an expression.
25. (Original) A method of 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to a report template.
26. (Original) A method of 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to another report.
27. (Original) A method of claim 25 wherein a plurality of templates are displayed for user selection.
28. (Original) A method of 21 wherein extracted information includes a reference to a relation.
29. (Original) A method of claim 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to the first report.
30. (Original) A method of claim 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to a dynamic web page for the second report.

31. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to a context of the drill link within the first report.

32. (Original) A method of claim 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to grouping key values identifying a particular value within the report.

33. (Original) A method of claim 21 wherein the extracted information is used to apply a filter on the second report.

34. (Currently Amended) A computer system for creating drill links in a report, the system comprising:

a) means for accessing a relational abstraction of a data store, the relational abstraction including a plurality of views, scalar or aggregate fields associated with the views, relations between the views, and a metadata layer that includes one or more objects that contain properties describing the data store, the views, the fields, and the relation; and

b) means for providing a user interface for creating a report that includes at least one drill link, wherein the means for providing a user interface for creating a report comprises (i) means for including only fields constrained by a base view in the relational abstraction, and (ii) means for providing the at least one drill link only on a field constrained by the metadata layer of the relational abstraction based upon a relation path from the base view.

35. (Currently Amended) A computer system for following drill links in a report, the system comprising:

a) means for accessing a relational abstraction of a data store, the relational abstraction including a plurality of views, scalar or aggregate fields associated with the views, relations between the views, and a metadata layer that includes one or more objects that contain properties describing the data store, the views, the fields, and the relation;

b) means for providing a user interface for creating a first report containing at least one drill link, wherein the means for providing a user interface for creating a first report comprises (i) means for including only fields constrained by a base view in the relational abstraction, and (ii) means for providing the at least one drill link only on a field constrained by the metadata layer of the relational abstraction based upon a relation path from the base view;

c) upon selection of the drill link, means for extracting the information associated with the drill link; and

d) means for generating a second report using the extracted information.

~~37.36.~~ (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)